

Attorney's Docket No: B0932/7088

13/a
R. Smiley
11/4/99
Lee

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

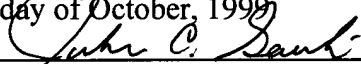
Applicant: Paul T. Maravetz, et al.
Serial No: 09/062,255
Filed: April 17, 1998
For: ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ENGAGING A SNOWBOARD
BOOT TO A BINDING

Examiner: F. Vanaman
Art Unit: 3611

RECEIVED
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600
99 NOV -3 PM 3:04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 28th day of October, 1999.


John C. Gorecki, Reg. No. 38,471

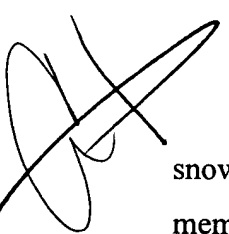
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application on the merits, please amend claims 1, 51, 54, and 74, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS


~~1. (Amended) A system for mounting a rider to a snowboard, the system comprising:~~
a snowboard boot having a sole including a heel area, an arch area and a toe area;
a snowboard binding;
a first engagement member; and
a second engagement member;
wherein one of the first and second engagement members is mounted to the sole of the snowboard boot forward of the arch area and the other of the first and second engagement members is mounted to the binding;
wherein the first engagement member is adapted to mate with the second engagement member to releasably engage the snowboard boot to the binding; [and]